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St. Mary's County Public Schools

Central Administration

Office of the Superintendent
23160 Moakley Street, Suite 109
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Dr. J. Scott Smith
Superintendent

August 14, 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Under the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requires that all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers and the qualifications of any paraprofessionals serving their child.

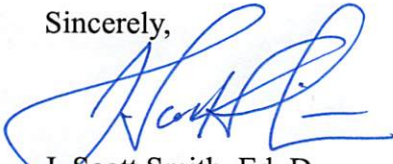
Your child attends a school that receives Federal Title I funds. You have the right to request the following information, which will be provided to you in a timely manner, if you request it:

- Whether the teacher has met Maryland's qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject matter he or she teaches;
- Whether Maryland has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances;
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees;
- Whether any paraprofessional educators provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of the above-mentioned information, please make the request in writing to your school's principal.

Our teachers are committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher on a regular basis. By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,



J. Scott Smith, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Dr. Dale Farrell, Chief of Staff